

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01406 111143 Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 AID-20 EB-11 RSR-01 /158 W

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R 111045 Z MAY 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3025

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS NOTES MAY 11

1. MAY 11 PRESS AGAIN LEADS WITH EVENTS IN LEBANON. AHRAM REPORTS THAT " TENSE" CALM PREVAILS, WHILE AKHBAR AND GUMHURIYYA EMPHASIZE THREAT OF ISRAELI STRIKE INTO LEBANON. GUMHURIYYA STATES THERE IS US/ ISRAELI COLLUSION TO EXPLOIT LEBANESE EVENTS AND LIQUIDATE PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE IN LEBANON. AS CORROBORATING EVIDENCE GUMHURIYYA STATES THAT " COMMANDER OF US SIXTH FLEET HAS SAID THAT (THE FLEET) IS PREPARED TO INTERVENE IN LEBANON IF SYRIA INTERVENES." PAPER THEN NOTES THAT IDDF IS CARRYING OUT MANEUVERS ON GOLAN HEIGHTS, AND THAT ABBA EBAN' S DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 01406 111143 Z

CONCENTRATED ON LEBANESE FIGHTING. AKHBAR AND GUMHURIYYA CONTINUE TO TAKE STRONG EDITORIAL LINE AGAINST LEBANESE ARMY, AND GUMHURIYYA HAS PARTICULARLY CAUSTIC PIECE TO EFFECT THAT RECENT EVENTS HAVE PROVED THAT LEBANON HAS AN AIR FORCE FOR USE AGAINST ARABS, BUT ONE WHICH DISAPPEARS WHENEVER ISRAELIS FLY OVERHEAD. DESPITE ANTI- GOL EDITORIAL BIAS, AKHBAR HAS FRONT- PAGE ARTICLE ON CAUSES OF LEBANESE EVENTS WHICH PLACES MAJOR BLAME ON PALESTINIANS FOR IRRESPONSIBLE ACTS WHICH INVITED GOL RETALIATION.

2. HAILE SELASSIE WILL REPORTEDLY BE MET ON ARRIVAL AT CAIRO AIRPORT BY SADAT ON AFTERNOON, MAY 11.

3. PRESS REPORTS THAT SADAT RECEIVED SOVIET AMBASSADOR VINOGRADOV MAY 10 (LAST REPORTED MEETING BETWEEN SADAT AND VINOGRADOV WAS MARCH 25).

4. HEYKAL RESUMES WRITING. MAY 11 ARTICLE, " THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS REVISITED ," IS BROAD- BRUSH PIECE IN WHICH HEYKAL RECOLLECTS HIS ADVICE IN PAST ARTICLES THAT ARABS SHOULD RESORT TO DRAINING US OF ITS STRENGTH RATHER THAN HITTING IT IN THE FACE; THAT TREND IN WORLD IS TOWARD ENTENTE, AND THAT SOVIETS CAN GIVE BUT LIMITED SUPPORT TO EGYPT; AND THAT ENERGY CRISIS, ROLE OF WESTERN EUROPE, ARAB RED SEA STRATEGY AND ATTRACTION OF WORLD OPINION TO ARAB CAUSE ARE ALL ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE. HE STATES THAT ARABS MUST DEFINE THEIR GOALS AND DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN WAR, WHICH IS CARRIED OUT ON ALL FRONTS, AND FIGHTING, WHICH IS SIMPLY SHOOTING. HE CLAIMS THAT ARABS ARE FILLED WITH APPREHENSIONS AND DOUBTS, AND DO NOT GRASP THE CHANGES OF THE TIMES. HE NOTES THAT ME CRISIS HAS BEEN RELEGATED BY WEST TO ROLE OF BEING ONLY PART OF THE ENERGY CRISIS, AND THAT FOCUS OF CONFLICT IS SHIFTING FROM SUEZ CANAL TO ARAB GULF. ISRAEL AND US UNDERSTAND THIS POINT AND ACT ACCORDINGLY, WHILE ARABS DO NOT. HE CONCLUDES THAT, NEVERTHELESS, ARAB WORLD IS CONNECTED TO TWO OF WORLD' S MAJOR CRISIS-- THE ENERGY CRISIS AND THE MONETARY CRISIS. IN BOTH, THE ARABS CAN HAVE AN EFFECT, PERHAPS A DECISIVE ONE. (COMMENT: LATTER POINT SUGGESTS THEME OF FORTHCOMING ARTICLES.)

GREENE

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